

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/661,472

Examiner

George R. Koch III

Applicant(s)

LEE ET AL.

Art Unit

1734

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 10/16/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-15, 17-44, 46-74, 76-97, 100-110 and 114-121.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Rebecca Rudich on 12/20/06.

The application has been amended as follows:

This application is in condition for allowance except for the presence of claims 111-113 directed to a method invention non-elected without traverse. Accordingly, claims 111-113 been cancelled.

Election/Restrictions

2. Claims 1-15, 17-33, 35-39, 41-44, 46-63, 65-69, 71-74, 76-86, 88-92, 94-97, 101-105, 107-110 and 119-121 are allowable. The restriction requirement covering various species as set forth in the Office action mailed on 8/25/2004, has been reconsidered in view of the allowability of claims to the elected invention pursuant to MPEP § 821.04(a). **The restriction requirement is hereby withdrawn as to any claim that requires all the limitations of an allowable claim.** Claim 34, 40, 64, 70, 87, 93, 100, and 106,

Art Unit: 1734

directed to various species, are no longer withdrawn from consideration because the claim(s) requires all the limitations of an allowable claim.¹

In view of the above noted withdrawal of the restriction requirement, applicant is advised that if any claim presented in a continuation or divisional application is anticipated by, or includes all the limitations of, a claim that is allowable in the present application, such claim may be subject to provisional statutory and/or nonstatutory double patenting rejections over the claims of the instant application.

Once a restriction requirement is withdrawn, the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 121 are no longer applicable. See *In re Ziegler*, 443 F.2d 1211, 1215, 170 USPQ 129, 131-32 (CCPA 1971). See also MPEP § 804.01.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-15, 17-33, 34, 35-39, 40, 41-44, 114, 115, 119 and 121 are allowed.
4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record does not suggest the interlocking means of claim 16 in the context of the limitations of claim 1 or 119 or 121.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

¹ Claims 111-113 are directed towards method claims, not apparatus claims. All allowed claims are

Art Unit: 1734

5. Claims 46-63, 64, 65-69, 70, 71-74 and 116 and 120 are allowed.
6. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record, especially Satoshi, does not suggest the transparent materials in the context of claims 46 or 120.
7. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."
8. Claims 79, 76-78, 80-86, 87, 88-92, 93, 94-97, 100, 106 and 117 are allowed.
9. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record, especially Satoshi, does not suggest the outwardly sloped, curved regions in the chamber unit in the context of the other limitations of claim 79.
10. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."
11. Claims 103, 101, 102, 104, 105, 107-110 and 118 are allowed.
12. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record does not suggest the inclusion of holes in the protection sheet or

apparatus claims. As such, they are not dependent from any claim that has all of the limitations of an

Art Unit: 1734

corresponding those holes with the chuck in the context of the other limitations of claim 103 (these other limitations are anticipated by US 2002/0043344 to Watanabe, which discloses a substrate bonding device for fabricating a LCD device, comprising an upper stage (item 59) for securing a first substrate of the LCD device, a lower stage (item 58) for securing a second substrate of the LCD device, first and second reels (items 54 and 55, and see paragraph 0040) arranged at opposite side portions of at least one of the upper and lower stages, a protection sheet (item 51) for covering a surface of at least one stage, wherein the protection sheet is scrollable by the first and second reels, and a rotating part (items 52 and 53) for rotating the first and second reels. Sheet/Belt 51 is considered to substantially cover the surface of the stage.)

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Drawings

13. The drawings were received on 11/17/2003. These drawings are approved by the examiner.

Conclusion

allowed claim, nor capable of being a claim that has all of the limitations of an allow claim.

14. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to George R. Koch III whose telephone number is (571) 272-1230 (TDD only). If the applicant cannot make a direct TDD-to-TDD call, the applicant can communicate by calling the Federal Relay Service at 1-866-377-8642 and giving the operator the above TDD number. The examiner can also be reached by E-mail at george.koch@uspto.gov <<mailto:george.koch@uspto.gov>> in accordance with MPEP 502.03. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher Fiorilla can be reached on (571) 272-1187. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



George R. Koch III
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1734